

Historical Floods: James River at Buchanan, Virginia

Latitude: 37.531

Flood Stage: 17 ft

Period of Record: 1877-Present

Last Flood: 6/24/2016

Longitude: -79.679

Number of Floods: 75

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
10/3/1877	-9999.00	-9,999	Missing	C1
11/24/1877	34.90	142,000	Major	C1 C8
4/1/1886	27.00	85,000	Major	C1 C9
3/1/1889	27.00	85,000	Major	C1 C9
10/13/1893	-9999.00	-9,999	Missing	C1
4/9/1895	19.00	49,800	Minor	C1
3/5/1899	19.50	51,900	Minor	C1
11/26/1900	21.40	59,800	Moderate	C1
3/1/1902	25.00	76,000	Moderate	C1
3/24/1903	17.50	43,800	Minor	C1
6/14/1907	17.00	41,800	Minor	C1
2/16/1908	19.00	49,800	Minor	C1
3/27/1913	31.00	105,000	Major	C1
2/2/1915	20.00	56,100	Minor	C1
3/5/1917	17.70	44,600	Minor	C1
3/14/1918	17.30	43,000	Minor	C1
1/3/1919	18.50	47,800	Minor	C1
5/12/1924	21.50	60,000	Moderate	C1
1/23/1935	23.82	70,400	Moderate	none
3/18/1936	26.80	84,100	Major	none
1/21/1937	17.12	41,400	Minor	none

5/31/1940	17.00	41,100	Minor	none
5/17/1942	19.56	52,300	Minor	none
5/22/1942	18.40	47,400	Minor	none
12/4/1948	17.15	42,600	Minor	none
4/14/1949	20.18	54,800	Minor	none
12/8/1950	18.95	49,800	Minor	none
3/12/1952	17.73	42,000	Minor	none
2/22/1953	19.15	48,000	Minor	none
3/2/1954	18.75	46,400	Minor	none
3/7/1955	19.36	48,800	Minor	none
4/6/1957	18.78	46,400	Minor	none
3/31/1960	18.45	44,700	Minor	none
10/21/1961	17.68	42,000	Minor	none
3/13/1963	22.30	61,800	Moderate	none
3/8/1967	20.77	55,000	Minor	none
8/20/1969	23.37	65,800	Moderate	none
1/1/1970	19.81	49,500	Minor	none
2/14/1971	18.90	45,900	Minor	none
5/31/1971	19.07	46,600	Minor	none
2/27/1972	18.52	44,400	Minor	none
6/22/1972	30.49	111,000	Major	none

Drainage Area: 2073 sq mi
Gage Datum: 802.1 ft MSL

James Basin

County of Gage: Botetourt
County of Forecast Point: Botetourt

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2/3/1973	18.16	42,900	Minor	none
3/18/1973	19.23	47,300	Minor	none
5/29/1973	20.38	52,900	Minor	none
12/27/1973	24.17	73,400	Moderate	none
3/20/1975	17.93	42,000	Minor	none
10/10/1976	17.00	38,300	Minor	none
4/6/1977	22.81	66,000	Moderate	none
1/27/1978	22.31	63,200	Moderate	none
3/15/1978	18.87	45,800	Minor	none
3/27/1978	18.72	45,200	Minor	none
2/25/1979	19.91	50,600	Minor	none
4/15/1980	18.29	43,500	Minor	F2
6/13/1982	18.37	43,400	Minor	F2
2/14/1984	19.10	46,700	Minor	F2
11/5/1985	38.84	179,000	Major	F2
4/16/1987	24.81	76,100	Moderate	F2
4/22/1992	23.64	69,900	Moderate	F2
3/5/1993	20.60	54,200	Minor	F2
1/16/1995	22.70	64,800	Moderate	F2
1/20/1996	29.24	103,000	Major	F2
12/2/1996	18.79	45,600	Minor	F2

1/9/1998	19.95	51,000	Minor	F2
2/23/2003	24.03	72,000	Moderate	F2
5/19/2003	18.57	44,600	Minor	F2
11/20/2003	19.63	49,515	Minor	F2
9/29/2004	25.66	61,200	Moderate	F2
6/26/2006	18.72	37,800	Minor	F2
6/28/2006	21.98	48,300	Moderate	F2
4/16/2007	17.85	35,100	Minor	F2
1/26/2010	20.17	42,400	Minor	F2
1/31/2013	17.50	34,100	Minor	F2
5/8/2013	19.58	40,500	Minor	F2
6/24/2016	20.33	42,900	Minor	F2

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-9999 signifies missing data

MARFC Codes

Code	Description
C1	Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in frequency calculations. Some of the floods are based on current flood stage and nearby gage information.
C2	Crest information looks reliable despite potential problems. This data was used in frequency calculations.
C3	Crest height estimated by the USGS.
C4	Crest height is from the National Weather Service.
C5	Crest height affected by backwater.
C6	Crest occurred at a previous flood stage that is lower than the current flood stage. The crests below the new flood stage are not used in flood frequency calculations.
C7	Crest from USGS yearly peak and/or date is different than the crest we provide. In many cases MARFC uses crest based on backwater or ice effects. Crest month or day of occurrence has been estimated by The Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center usually based on nearby gage information.
C8	Crest date (day) in the month is unknown.
C9	Flow is an estimate.
F1	Flow affected by regulation or diversion and in some cases to an unknown degree.
F2	Flow effected by snow-melt, ice jam or debris jam break up.
F3	Flow affected by dam failure.
F4	Flow - All or part of the record affected by urbanization, mining, agricultural changes, channelization or other factors.
F5	Gage height at a different site and/or datum.
G1	Gage is not an official USGS gage with crests provided by the NWS. Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in flood frequency calculations.
G2	Gage datum changed during this year.

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